

response, where Applicants state that "[d]espite applicants' traversal, applicants elect the *masked acid*, the *nucleotide* and the *photoactivated compound* for prosecution on the merits" (emphasis added). This election was provided in response to paragraph 4 of the office action mailed June 6, 2001 where the Examiner requested election of one species from each of three categories.


In the instant Office Action, the Examiner has requested a new species election including two more categories: (1) a photo activated catalyst and (2) a protecting group. In addition, the Examiner maintains the species election request of (3) an autocatalytic compound, (4) a synthesis intermediate (from either an amino acid or nucleotide), and (5) a photosensitive compound (from either pentafluorobenzoic acid or a photoactivated catalyst), from the prior Office Action (Paper No. 4). The basis for the restriction requirement is the Examiner's belief that the compounds are structurally and functionally different from each other and do not require the other for ultimate use (Paper No. 4). Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's election of species requirement for reasons of record.

Despite Applicants' traversal, Applicants maintain their election from Applicants' prior response for the masked acid (for an autocatalytic compound), the nucleotide (for a synthesis intermediate) and the photoactivated compound (for a photosensitive compound) for prosecution on the merits. Applicants further elect the acid removable protecting group (for a protecting group) and the photo activated acid catalyst (for a photo activated catalyst) for prosecution on the merits.

Claims readable on the elected species include 1, 2, 3, 6, 12, 14, 15, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 70, 71, 73, 74, 75, and 76.

Respectfully submitted,

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John P. Iwanicki
Reg. No. 34,628
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
28 State Street, 28th Floor
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 227-7111